

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful review of the application. The Applicants have addressed each of the Examiner's concerns which were expressed in paragraphs 1-9 of the office action.

Pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion, the words "PRIOR ART" have been added to Fig. 1.

The Applicants have also made other minor changes to the claims, such as the changing of the unnecessary limitations of "adapted and configured" or "configured and adapted" to be merely "configured."

The Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Thornton, in view of Heller or Roberts.

When evaluating a claim for obviousness, each and every limitation of the claims must be fully considered. To fail to consider any claim language is a failure to examine the claim as a whole as required by 35 U.S.C. §103.

When each and every limitation of the claim, as amended, is considered, it becomes clear that one claim limitation is not taught or suggested by the cited references. Each claim, as amended, contains limitations to the notion of looping cables from the normal output on the back of a PC back into the PC itself. This notion of looping an output of a PC back as an input is a completely foreign notion, especially when considering looping them to an expansion card which is already

getting its data input not from the internal bus, but from an external PC output, is not taught or suggested by the cited references. Heller and Roberts do not teach this looping back information from an external output of a PC back into a card on the same PC.

All of the independent claims, except claim 17, which originally included the notion of looping, have been amended to include these foreign notions. The Applicants believe that when these claims, as amended, are fully considered, it will be clear that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early notification of the same would be much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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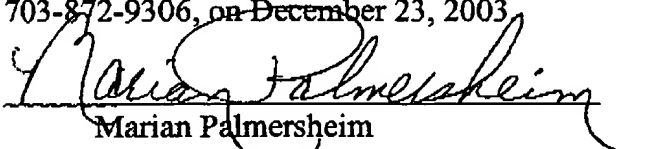
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